

# The Spirit's Multi-Faceted Work in the NT-era Believer

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**Focus:** The Work of the Spirit in the individual Christian.

## 1. He regenerates the spiritually dead (John 3:5, Titus 3:5)

Regeneration (being “born again”) is a rebirth; a new beginning or second genesis; a new & second birth. Regeneration by the Holy Spirit is the radical change of a *spiritually dead person* into a new kind of being: a *spiritually-alive human being!* The human heart is recreated, quickened from spiritual death unto life (Eph. 2:5, Ezek. 36:26-27).

## 2. He indwells believers (1 Cor. 6:19, Rom. 8:9)

Indwelling is the abiding permanent presence of the Spirit. We become literal temples (houses) for the Divine Spirit. This truth is humbling, encouraging—and demanding!

## 3. The Spirit baptizes (1 Cor. 12:13, Eph. 4:5)

The baptism of the Holy Spirit may be defined as that work whereby the Spirit of God places the believer into union with Christ and into union with other believers in the body of Christ at the moment of salvation.

ALL genuine believers are immersed into the universal church and are incorporated into the Body of Christ; the Spirit is the Body's organic vitality. We are surrounded by the Spirit's very life and power. We are united to one another in the Spirit.

## 4. He seals believers (2 Cor. 1:22; Eph. 1:13-14, 4:30)

The Holy Spirit is the “deposit,” “seal,” and “earnest” in the hearts of Christians; He serves as God's seal upon His people. The Spirit's Presence marks God's claim upon us as His very own, representing the “earnest” money or “pledge,” given in advance as a security or down payment on our heavenly inheritance. Because the Spirit has sealed us, we are assured of our salvation; no one can break the seal of God.

## 5. He fills believers (Eph. 5:18)

A matter of **control**; apart from Christ, we can do nothing (John 15:5). The Spirit *controls* the believer's life—e.g., his thoughts, speech, attitudes, conduct, and labors. This is a continuing obligation and repeatable experience; something to be *sought*.

We are admonished to be completely *yielded* unto the Holy Spirit so that He can exercise full possession over us and, in that sense, *fill* us. Episodes of personal sin and backsliding diminish and impair the Spirit's influence on our walk.

**6. He leads, or guides (Rom. 8:14).**

A matter of both guidance and submission to the Spirit's influence, suggestion, and direction. He uses a variety of means to accomplish this. The Presence of our gracious, loving Guide shows that we are indeed sons and daughters of God.

**7. He imparts special spiritual gifts - 1 Cor. 12**

Distinct from natural talents & naturally developed abilities. There are three Biblical lists (Rom. 12:6-8, 1 Cor. 12:4-11, 1 Cor. 12:28) of the "gifts of the Spirit" (some of which were exclusively appropriate to the Apostolic Age).

**8. He teaches & illuminates (John 14:26; 1 Cor. 2:12-16; 1 John 2:20, 27; Rev. 2:11)**

**9. He sanctifies God's people (2 Thess. 2:13).**

He makes us Holy and sets us apart, unto God's service.

**10. He produces fruit in Christians (Gal. 5:22-23).**

**Gal. 5:22-23:** *"But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, self-control; against such things there is no law."*

**11. He bears witness to the fact of our redemption (Rom. 8:16, 1 John 4:13).**

The Holy Spirit furnishes evidence to our minds that we have truly been adopted into the Family of God. Is the Fruit of the Spirit in our lives?

**12. He intercedes for us (Rom. 8:26)**

He edits and makes acceptable our prayers before the Father.

**13. He raises and changes the body (Rom. 8:11)**

The same Divine Spirit who raised Jesus from the dead will raise up our bodies as well!